

Application Serial No. 10/783,918
Office Action dated March 22, 2006
Response dated June 15, 2006

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed March 22, 2006. In response to the Examiner's Action, by this amendment, claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 17, 20, 21, 25, and 35, 36 remain in this application. Claims 2-4, 7, 9-16, 18, 19, 22-24, and 26-34 have been cancelled. New claims 35, 36 have been added.

Claim Rejection – 35 USC § 112

While the Examiner's reasoning, relative to claim 28, is correct, the issue has become moot since this claim has been cancelled.

Claim Rejection – Typographical Error

In accordance with the Examiner's correct assumption, claim 17 has been amended, among other reasons, as recommended by the Examiner. New claim 36 also includes this amended language. The error is regretted.

Claim Rejection – 35 USC §102

In response to the Examiner's 35 USC 102 (e) rejection, claims 10-14 and 16 have been cancelled.

Claim Rejection – 35 USC §103

In response to the Examiner's 35 USC 103 (a) rejection, claims 1-3, 9, 15, 17, 18, 22, 23 and 26-34 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is commended for his thoroughness of his examination and the reasoning in his statement for the indication of allowable subject matter. Thus, in conformity with the Examiner's noted indication of allowability, original claims 1 and 4 have been combined, with amended claim 5 and original claim 6, respectively depending therefrom. Original claims 1 and 7 have been combined into new claim 35, with original claim 8 being amended to depend therefrom. In addition, original claim 17 has been amended, as previously noted, and combined with original claim 19, with amended claim 20 and original claim 21, respectively depending therefrom. Finally, amended claim 17 has also been combined with original claim 24 into new claim 36, with amended claim 25 depending therefrom.

In light of the above reasoning, it is respectfully submitted that remaining claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 17, 20, 21 and 25, together with newly added claims 35, 36 are patentably distinct from being obvious over Wedge et al. (U.S. 6,719,825 B2) in view of Cunkelman (U.S. 6,128,825) and are in condition for allowance, with prompt notice to that effect also being respectfully requested.

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If the Examiner should have any questions and/or further recommendations, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.H. Hunter', is written over a horizontal line.

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